

# International Technical Support

Newsletter no. 8, June 2017 - INSEE, France



## Editorial: Africa takes pride of place!

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This latest edition of International Technical Support presents INSEE cooperation activities during H2 2016 and H1 2017. Several important events took place involving our African partners.

ERETES, the system that helps to draw up national accounts, has been given a new lease of life as part of the Pan-African Statistical Programme to which INSEE contributes.

Two high-level visits by representatives of Statistics South Africa, the country's NSI, helped to develop relations between our two countries.

An African seminar on governance, peace and security statistics was co-organised by INSEE with the French National Research Institute for Sustainable Development (IRD), under the aegis of the African Union Commission. The theme corresponds to Development Objective n° 16 of Agenda 2030.

The Seasonal Adjustment Days, regularly organised by INSEE, provided an opportunity to speak to representatives of partner countries from the south, the Maghreb and sub-Saharan Africa.

Other cooperation projects are described in this edition: there is an interview with Mr Jacques Magniez, key expert in the National Accounts component of the service contract with SORS, the Serbian NSI, about progress with this EU-funded project which will be completed at the end of 2017.



*Tower of the Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO) in Bamako (Mali), home to the Malian headquarters of the organisation, with the Niger River in the foreground*

Another article presents the CAPI and SICORE software, techniques for data collection and processing used by INSEE, which are increasingly the subject of cooperation programmes with countries in the Maghreb.

This newsletter also reports on an internal INSEE seminar organised on the theme of international cooperation whose aim was to raise awareness and encourage our potential experts to get involved in future. Enjoy reading it!

# Pan-African Statistical Programme: a new lease of life for the ERETES system

The ERETES system is receiving attention on several fronts: the set-up of an enlarged team of trainers; the launch of a project to revise and update the existing system; promotion and communication to new audiences.

This dynamic is driven by a strong synergy between INSEE's participation in the Pan-African Statistical Programme and actions carried out under its bilateral cooperation budget.

## Deep involvement in the Pan-African Statistical Programme

A consortium led by Expertise France is implementing a cooperation programme for the African Union. Known as the Pan-African Statistical Programme (PAS), it is financed by the European Union.

INSEE, which is a member of the consortium, is heavily involved in the national accounts component (transition to the UN 2008 system for national accounts (SNA)) and the ERETES component (which has itself been compatible with the SNA 2008 since 2011).

In this context, INSEE carried out a mission involving guidance and definition of activities for the use of ERETES.

At the beginning of 2017, a questionnaire was sent to every African country asking about their national accounts systems, their expectations and the improvements that could be made to ERETES.

Forty countries replied, representing more than 80% of African GDP. The most widely-used accounts tool by a long way is ERETES, although some countries in southern and eastern Africa prefer NADABAS and many countries still use Excel to draw up their accounts. ERETES is used in the Maghreb countries and in practically all the member states of Afristat.

One of the priorities of the PAS in this field is to set up an enlarged team to train people in the use of ERETES, composed of those colleagues who are the most advanced in its use within the African NSIs. The idea is to set up a mentoring programme between long-term users of the system and countries that wish to adopt it.

In December 2016, INSEE, which is keen to encourage south-south cooperation, helped to support this initiative by organising – with Afristat – a workshop in Bamako (Mali) to train trainers ready to respond to future demands to set up the ERETES system in the English-speaking areas of the African continent.



*Left to right: Mr Paul-Henri NGUEMA MEYE, deputy director general of Afristat; Mr Cosme VODOUNOU, director general of Afristat; Mr Jean-Samy AZIZ and Ms Sophie BOURREL, experts in national accounts and the ERETES tool, INSEE, at the workshop for training ERETES trainers, organised at the end of 2016 in Mali*

In June 2017, a second, similar workshop was held in Abidjan (Ivory Coast) in the framework of the PAS.

A second priority of PAS is to draw up detailed technical specifications for recasting ERETES. The new system must take users' concerns into account both by improving existing features and developing new ones. In order to identify users' needs, a workshop was held in Abidjan in May 2017, as part of the PAS.

It brought together experts from several African countries with the objective of exchanging views about changes to be implemented (accounting features, ergonomics, technical choices), specifying them and prioritising them as a precursor to the feasibility study.

This workshop was effectively a continuation of an initial workshop of a similar type organised – with INSEE's involvement – by Afritac West (technical branch of the IMF) in Abidjan in July 2016 on the harmonisation of accounting methods and working with ERETES.

## Pursuing our bilateral activities at the same time

The recasting of ERETES is a long process. While waiting for the work carried out in the PAS programme to produce an in-depth recasting of the system, it has been necessary to carry out an upgrade to ensure the system's continuity and its compatibility with new versions of Windows.

A new version of ERETES (based on the 64-bit version of the Progress Open Edge DBMS) has been tested by the technical team and a few corrections made before its planned release in June 2017.

In order to carry out a second test, the Open Edge version has also been made available to the IBGE, the Brazilian NSI, which owns ERETES jointly with INSEE and Eurostat.

At the same time, INSEE has continued its bilateral missions to install and oversee use of the ERETES system. Guinea-Bissau, Algeria and Jordan have thus benefited from missions carried out by the ERETES technical team.

During the same period, as part of his support mission to produce quarterly accounts interfaced with ERETES, Mr Alain Gallais has continued his experiments with automating the supply and use balances in Cameroon, Benin and Burkina Faso.

Finally, INSEE is continuing to promote and increase awareness of the system.

During the African Statistical Symposium organised in Tunis (Tunisia) in November 2016, the ERETES



*Left to right: Mr Emmanuel NGOK, statistician-economist at the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa; Ms Sophie BOURREL and Mr Jean-Samy AZIZ, experts in national accounts and the ERETES tool, INSEE, during the African Statistics Symposium organised at the end of 2016 in Tunisia*

technical team moderated a session about national accounts systems.

The main theme of the symposium was the strengthening of basic economic statistics in order to produce national accounts.

► *Jean-Samy AZIZ and Sophie BOURREL*

## Two visits by representatives of the South African NSI to INSEE

From 23 to 25 January 2017, INSEE welcomed a delegation of six senior managers from Statistics South Africa, the South African NSI.

The meetings with the delegation covered legal matters, the organisation of the official statistical system and innovative data processing.



*The South African delegation with Mr Jean-Luc TAVERNIER, director general of INSEE (centre) and Ms Sylvie LAGARDE, director of INSEE's Department of Methodology, Statistical Coordination and International Relations (right)*

The visit from Stats SA was part of an international tour by our South African colleagues aiming to draw inspiration from best practice observed in different NSIs.

On institutional and legal questions, presentations of the official statistical system, the National Council for Statistical Information (CNIS), the Official Statistics Authority (ASP)

and French legislation on statistical confidentiality provided ideas that will contribute to Stats SA's current reflection on the renovation of its own official statistics service.

In the field of innovative statistical methods, INSEE explained how it processes big data, taking as an example the use of scanner data to produce the consumer price index, due to begin very soon. In terms of geographical information, INSEE is developing spatial analysis methods based on geo-referenced statistical data.

The South African delegation presented Stats SA's educational dissemination initiative, which takes the form of an instructive comic strip available on YouTube. Entitled "Thandi's future", it follows a fictional character from birth to adulthood, illustrating her story with statistical data.

In April 2017, a second meeting took place at INSEE, this time between Mr Pali LEHOHLA, director general of Stats SA, and Mr Jean-Luc TAVERNIER, director general of INSEE.

This meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the current major projects involving statistics in Africa, particularly the creation of an African Statistical Institute (Statafric) under the aegis of the African



*Left to right, Mr Jean-Luc TAVERNIER, director general of INSEE and Mr Pali LEHOHLA, director general of Stats SA*

Union, supported by the European Union's Pan-African Statistical Programme, but also the indicators for monitoring sustainable development goals and the organisation of statistical systems to meet political needs.

Mr LEHOHLA showed a keen interest in the French statistical system. Possible avenues for future collaboration between the two NSIs were explored.

► *Constance TORELLI*

# European service contract for the Serbian NSI – Interview with Jacques Magniez, key expert in the national accounts component

INSEE is taking part in a European statistical project in Serbia, financed as part of the aid given to candidate countries wishing to join the European Union (see newsletter n° 6, June 2016). The service contract, signed in 2016 by GOPA (Germany) with SORS, the Serbian NSI, and which will be complete at the end of 2017, has three components: IT, national accounts, and sustainable development indicators. Mr Jacques MAGNIEZ, former deputy head of INSEE's national accounts division, is a key expert in the national accounts component.

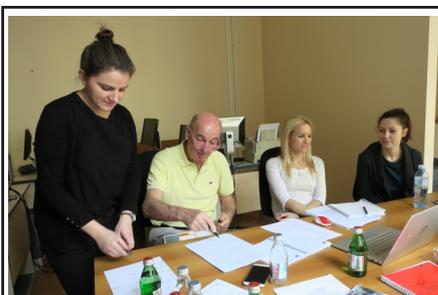
## What does your work involve?

I am working with five colleagues from INSEE<sup>1</sup> who undertake short missions on the national accounts component. We are helping our Serbian colleagues to produce a supply and use table (SUT) for 2014 and 2015.

The published version of the table will include 80 branches and products, following European classifications (NACE/CPA). Although the NSI already produces good-quality annual and quarterly national accounts and its statistical production has made considerable progress over the last few years, it had not yet developed a SUT. Our work benefitted from the results of a survey detailed by products of corporate sales and purchases carried out in 2011.

## How is the cooperation with the NSI going?

The cooperation with our Serbian colleagues, four of whom have been specifically allocated to this task, is very fruitful, given that the production of Serbia's first SUT represents real progress.



Mr Jacques MAGNIEZ (second from left), key expert in the national accounts component of the project, with three statistician methodologists from the Serbian NSI, from left to right: Ms Nikolina RUZIC, Ms Irena PAVLOVIC and Ms Jelena ZDRAVKOVIC

The statistical work should be finished at the end of H1 2017, meaning that this half-year has been the busiest period for all those involved in this component.

The last half-year of the project will be devoted to analysing the results and drawing up summary documents and recommendations for the future.

## Will this work change Serbian national accountants' vision of their country's economy?

The measurement of the sectoral structure and size of the Serbian economy will be little changed, apart from a significant increase in the weight of agriculture in gross domestic product (GDP).

Detailed knowledge about the circulation of products provided by the production of the supply and use balances for goods and services should provide a better understanding of how the Serbian economy operates and its relationships with the rest of the world. This should in turn enable a better evaluation of the impact of economic policies.

► Interview by Serge DARRINÉ



View of the River Save, tributary of the Danube, and the fortress in Kalemegdan Park, Belgrade (Serbia)

## Cooperation in survey techniques: the CAPI and SICORE software

Since the middle of the 1990s, INSEE has used computerised techniques to collect and process data, particularly two software packages developed in-house: CAPI (Computer-Assisted Personal Interviewing) and SICORE (Computer

System for Coding Survey Responses).

CAPI enables the quality of surveys carried out by a researcher (face to face or by telephone) to be considerably improved.

The researcher directly inputs the data onto a computer device (laptop or tablet) during the interview, providing the opportunity to carry out automatic checks and even corrections during this data collection phase.

1. They are: Mr Vincent BIAUSQUE (National Accounts Department); Ms Hélène CASSET-HERVIO and Mr Arnaud ROUSSET (Enterprise Statistics Directorate); Mr Charles PILARSKI (Bourgogne-Franche-Comté Regional Directorate); Ms Claire BIDAULT (Observation and Statistics Department).

A new version of CAPI, called CAPI3G, should be released in 2018. It will be capable of handling multimodal surveys, i.e. surveys using at least two of the following three modes: face to face, telephone and on line.

At the same time as improving data collection techniques, the processing of the collected data has been partly automated. SICORE enables automatic coding, usually using official classifications, of survey variables such as occupation, business activity, diploma, education level, municipality and country of birth or residence, etc.

In certain cases, the coding is done in classifications developed to meet a specific need, for example processing the Family Budget survey for which INSEE has defined nomenclatures for types of shop and consumer products. It is planned to develop the application to enable assisted coding of on-line surveys.

The majority of NSIs of the partner countries with which INSEE cooperates also wish to modernise their survey techniques.

At their request, the International Technical Support section has set up study visits or missions to present these techniques and their developments to future users and to advise on their implementation.

These cooperation projects have already contributed to practices being modernised.

For example, in 2009, the Moroccan Higher Planning Commission (HCP) successfully set up a process for collecting Labour Force Survey data using tablets.

Similarly, in 2018, the Algerian National Statistical Office (ONS) plans to collect data nationwide for the general population census using tablets.

As far as automatic coding is concerned, projects are ongoing with the Algerian ONS, the Moroccan HCP and Statistiques Tunisie, the Tunisian NSI.

In Morocco, the project involves automatic coding of business activities in administrative sources.

It was brought into service during H1 2017. The project is the subject of an article<sup>2</sup> co-authored by INSEE and the HCP that will be presented at the ISI2017 congress in Marrakech (16 to 21 July 2017).

From the autumn of 2017, cooperation actions will be set up involving the new survey techniques and their associated tools.

For household surveys, these will concern the multimodal approach and for business surveys, they will concern online surveys.

► Georges BOURDALLÉ

## Governance, peace and security statistics

On 28 and 29 November 2016, a workshop was held in Abidjan (Ivory Coast) on governance, peace and security (GPS) statistics for the whole of the African continent, on the side-lines of the meeting of the Committee of Directors General of Official Statistics.

Under the aegis of the African Union Commission (CUA), and co-organised by IRD-DIAL<sup>3</sup> and INSEE, the workshop<sup>4</sup> brought together statisticians from 11 African NSIs (Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Gabon, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, South Africa, Uganda), from Afristat, from INSEE's International Technical Support section, executives from the AUC's statistical division and researchers from IRD-DIAL.



*Participants in the workshop on governance, peace and security statistics in Abidjan (Ivory Coast)*

The workshop was jointly moderated by the organisers and the consultant responsible for the GPS component of the Pan-African Statistical Programme financed by the European Union and run by Expertise France.

Apart from sharing experience of

governance, peace and security data collection, the main objective was to reflect collectively about the methodological changes that would be necessary to align the statistical approach used in GPS modules with the requirements for statistical data in relation to the sustainable development goals.

During the second day, the workshop hosted a wider audience, particularly the directors general of the NSIs of African Union member states.

Presentations of their experience in the subject by several test countries showed that GPS instruments could be applied in other countries, despite the great diversity of national contexts.

2. *Automatic coding via SICORE applied to the treatment of the administrative sources of High Commission for Planning (HCP) of Morocco, G. Bourdallé and H. El Hanafi.*

3. *IRD-DIAL: Institute for Development Research - Development, Institutions and Globalisation. This mixed research unit specialises in questions of development.*

4. *The title of the workshop was: "The SHaSA on Governance, Peace and Security: Stock-taking, methodological consolidation in line with Agenda 2063 and SDG 16, and planning for continental scaling-up".*

During the discussions that followed, the NSI directors general indicated the strong interest and demand in this field, particularly in terms of strengthening their capacity to produce and analyse results.

Speakers also highlighted the importance of adopting an inclusive, multi-actor approach, of institutionalising the survey process, particularly within NSIs, and improving the dissemination of the results to decision-makers.

Finally, the work presented will provide an important contribution to establishing the necessary international standards for implementing the GPS sustainable development goal.

*Constance TORELLI*

## The Seasonal Adjustment Days and cooperation on seasonal adjustment – Interview with Dominique Ladiray, INSEE methodological expert

**What are the Seasonal Adjustment Days and what can be learned from those organised in October 2016?**

The idea of the Seasonal Adjustment Days (JCS) is to bring together the French-speaking practitioners of seasonal adjustment. Compared to their “big siblings”, the Statistical Methodology Days and the History of Statistics Days, the JCS have a special feature. They mix theory and applications and are organized over two days: presentations in the morning and practical work in the afternoon.



*First row, left to right: Mr Serge EDI, head of Afristat's department of Economic Studies and Synthesis; Mr Mathurin DEMBO TOE and Mr Ibrahim SAWADOGO, statistician-economists at the BCEAO*

work, but also to continue learning by increasing my awareness of current problems and meeting colleagues from other countries.

Cooperation is an important part of my work. During these exchanges, I learn at least as much as the people I meet. For example, working for several years with statisticians from Muslim countries made me aware of, and helped me to understand, the importance of certain religious holidays in reading and analysing those countries' time series.



*First row, left to right: Ms Bintou DIACK and Mr Mamadou DAFPE, statistician-economists at the Senegalese National Agency for Statistics and Demography (ANSD)*

Mr Gaël DE PERETTI<sup>5</sup> and I organised these JCS: call for presentations, registration, booking of meeting rooms, etc. We were also members of the review committee to select the papers that were finally presented. Mr Thomas BALCONE and Mr Hien PHAM<sup>6</sup> organised and ran the workshops.

The results of these exchanges will be built into version 3 of JDemetra+ by taking into account other calendars, such as the Hijrah. This European seasonal adjustment software was developed by the Belgian and German national banks, under the aegis of Eurostat and the European Central Bank.

Personally speaking, I regularly take part in several international conferences: Joint Statistical Meetings (congress of the American Statistical Association), International Symposium of Forecasting, Computational and Financial Econometrics, etc.

Finally, it is important to mention European cooperation in relation to seasonal adjustment. A Seasonal Adjustment Centre of Excellence<sup>7</sup> was set up in 2014. The centre, coordinated by INSEE and co-financed by several member states and Eurostat, offers a whole range of services: support centre, courses, testing of JDemetra+, documentation, etc.

The 2016 edition of these days, the sixth since their creation in 2008, brought together around 60 people with strong participation from our African colleagues. To judge by the audience and its reaction, the presentations and workshops were much appreciated.

**You have also been involved in international cooperation in this field for years. How does your participation in international conferences and your cooperation work enrich one another?**

► *Interview by Serge DARRINÉ*

**What was your role in these 2016 JCS, and in which other international conferences do you take part on the same theme?**

For me, international conferences provide the opportunity to represent INSEE while presenting my own

5. Head of the Data Collection and Processing division (RTI) in INSEE's Department of Statistical Methods (DMS).

6. Experts working in the RTI division.

7. [https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/content/seasonal-adjustment\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/cros/content/seasonal-adjustment_en)

# Internal seminar about INSEE's international cooperation activities

Last autumn, INSEE's International Technical Support section organised an internal seminar about the international cooperation of our institute.

The seminar had a twofold objective: to give staff a better understanding of INSEE's international cooperation activities and to encourage potential experts to become involved in future.

The event was open to all those who work for the French official statistical system (INSEE and the ministerial statistical departments), as well as to our colleagues from the Official and Development Statistics centre at Expertise France, the French international technical expertise agency.

Lasting two hours, the seminar was in three parts:

- a presentation of INSEE's international cooperation activities, an integral part of our Institute's missions, and the work of the International Technical Support section;



*Participants at the round table, left to right: Mr Benoît ROUPPERT, quality expert, Ms Marie-Madeleine FUGER, expert in economic classifications and Ms Anne HUSSEINI-SKALITZ, expert in monthly outlook surveys*

- a round table session with testimony from both experienced and junior experts, men and women, who had taken part in missions or study visits on a variety of themes: quality, national accounts, short-term surveys and business surveys, economic classifications, etc.;

- the main results of an in-house survey to identify INSEE employees interested in cooperation. Among those surveyed, 450 said they

would like to be involved in cooperation activities, including 270 volunteers for missions abroad.

A question-and-answer session followed each part so that everyone could express themselves. A number of people wanted more details about how they could take part in international technical support activities.

The presentations, accompanied by slideshows, described in turn the three main geographical areas to which INSEE traditionally provides technical support: Eastern European Neighbourhood Policy countries, the Maghreb and sub-Saharan Africa.

Judging by the number of participants (130, of whom 70 took part by videoconference from the Institute's regional offices), the experiment was a success and will be followed up by other, similar events aiming to make staff more aware of the Institute's cooperation activities.

► Serge DARRINÉ

## Publication of n° 111 of the Statéco journal on the state of national accounts in West Africa

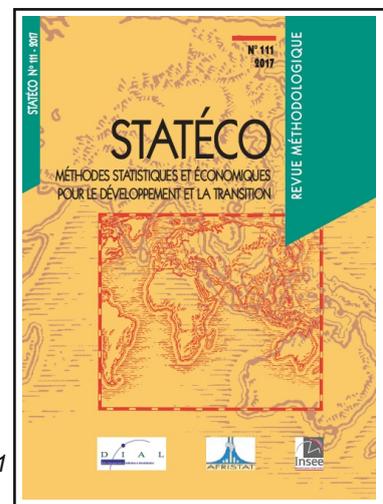
On the occasion of the 16th symposium of the French Association for National Accounts, held in Paris from 7 to 9 June 2017, a special edition of the Statéco journal will be appearing in July 2017.

It reviews national accounting in West Africa, notably describing the contribution of ERETES, the tool for assisting in drawing up national accounts that has been adopted by many countries in the region.

Among other things in this issue, we learn that over the past ten years or so, the situation in terms of national accounts has improved considerably in almost all the Afristat member countries.

Statéco is co-edited by INSEE, Afristat and DIAL and is accessible online on the INSEE website (<https://www.insee.fr/fr/information/2116798>).

Cover of Statéco no. 111



# Cooperation actions undertaken between July 2016 and June 2017

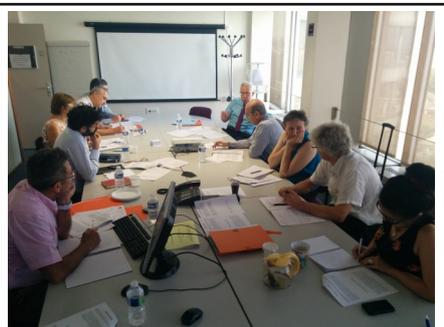
## Maghreb

### Tunisia

Between mid-2016 and mid-2017, INSEE undertook 25 technical support actions for Statistiques Tunisie as part of the European twinning project which started at the beginning of 2016 and will be complete at the end of 2017.

These actions included one study visit (to INSEE's Hauts-de-France regional directorate) and 24 missions.

The missions were related to all aspects of the twinning: revision of the national accounts system; development of regional statistics; reorganisation of the regional directorates and training of the personnel in those establishments; putting into place a national statistical charter and a quality charter; environmental statistics and environmental national accounts.



*Coordination meeting between French and Italian experts from Strand C – National Accounts of the twinning project with the Tunisian NSI*

During the same period, INSEE also used its bilateral cooperation agreement to provide technical support to the Tunisian NSI.

A study visit was organised on business survey processing methods, and two missions took place, the first on the CAPI and SICORE software packages which enable automation of the collection and processing of survey data;<sup>8</sup> the second on economic classifications.

### Morocco

Nine actions (five missions and four study visits) were organised for the benefit of Moroccan governmental organisations, mainly the Higher Planning Commission, but also the "Office des Changes", the Ministry of Industry and the National Institute for Short-term Analysis.

These actions covered the following themes: methodology for industry and trade surveys; business registers; the process of collecting data for annual and short-term business surveys, particularly online; implementing the SICORE software; national accounts for institutional sectors; macroeconomic modelling; methodology and processes for drawing up monthly sectoral reports; panels.

### Algeria

Three missions took place with the Algerian NSI, on the annual structural business survey and the set-up of the CAPI and SICORE software packages.

### Joint visits to several countries in the Maghreb

INSEE regularly organises cooperation actions for the benefit of two countries in the Maghreb, or even all three simultaneously (Tunisia, Morocco, Algeria).

Seven study visits of this type took place between July 2016 and June 2017: participation in conferences and symposia (European Forum for Geography and Statistics, 6th Seasonal Adjustment Days - JCS 2016; symposium of the French Association for National Accounts), as well as study visits to INSEE on the following themes: surveys and indices on housing, rents, charges and prices of property transactions; training in small areas; the Labour Force Survey, permanent demographic sample and panel sampling methodology; developing human resources.

## Sub-Saharan Africa

### Afristat and its member states

Between mid-2016 and mid-2017, INSEE undertook 13 cooperation actions for the benefit of Afristat and its member states.

Our Institute organised a seminar at its training centre in Libourne (CEFIL) on the theme of the confidentiality of statistical data and techniques for anonymising micro-data; the audience was made up of representatives of the NSIs of 12 Afristat member states, plus Morocco, Tunisia and Haiti.



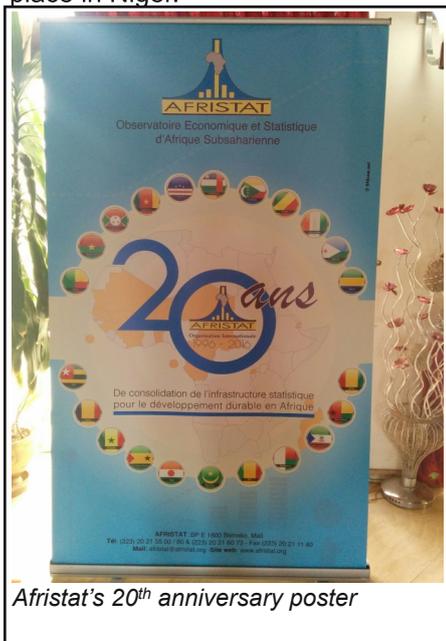
*Participants at the CEFIL seminar, accompanied by Ms Constance TORELLI (centre), responsible for INSEE's international cooperation with sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean, and organiser of this seminar*

In addition, a delegation bringing together representatives of Afristat and African schools for statistics was received at INSEE on the theme of panel techniques.

As well as these two visits, 11 missions were organised: two of them took place in Cameroon, on the monitoring of sustainable development goals and the processing of time series.

8. See the article on the subject in this newsletter.

Another mission, organised on the occasion of the commemoration of 20 years of Afristat's existence, took place in Niger.



*Afristat's 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary poster*



*Screenshot from the video of the speech given by Mr Jean-Luc TAVERNIER, director general of INSEE, at the celebration of Afristat's 20th anniversary*

Yet another, organised in Ivory Coast, was about governance, peace and security statistics,<sup>10</sup> and was aimed at representatives of the NSIs of 11 Afristat member states.

The Guinea Central Bank also received support in the form of training in writing techniques applied to economic outlook publications, as well as an audit of the readability of its statistical publications and its website.

Finally, six missions were carried out in sub-Saharan Africa on drawing up quarterly national accounts, for the benefit of Afristat and the NSIs of three member states: Cameroon, Benin and Burkina Faso.

## Central Bank of West African States (BCEAO)

As part of the ongoing cooperation agreement between the BCEAO and INSEE, two cooperation actions took place during H1 2017: a mission in Dakar by an INSEE expert on the economic outlook and forecasting models, and a study visit to Paris (jointly with Afristat) with the objective of taking part in a symposium organized by the French National Accounts Association.

## South African NSI

During H1 2017 three cooperation actions were undertaken for the benefit of the South African NSI: two study visits to INSEE<sup>11</sup> including one by the director general of Stats SA, the South African NSI, mainly about statistical coordination, and a mission by an INSEE expert on processing time series.

## Europe and Asia

### Serbia

As part of the ongoing service contract for SORS, the Serbian NSI, which started at the beginning of 2016 and will be completed at the end of 2017, five missions took place between July 2016 and June 2017, all relating to the national ac-



*Left to right: Ms Milena B. STEVOVIĆ, Division for Rapid and Complex Reporting and Public Policy Support Indicators, SORS; Ms Yaëlle HAUSEUX, at the time expert in short-term surveys, INSEE; Ms Vesna ARALICA, French-Serbian interpreter, SORS; Ms Morgane GLOTAÏN and Mr Alain QUARTIER LA TENTE, experts in short-term surveys, INSEE; Ms Katarina STANČIĆ, Head of the Division cited above, SORS*

counts component in which INSEE is involved.<sup>12</sup>

In addition, the bilateral cooperation with SORS is being pursued, with three actions taking place over the same period: a mission on the processing of time series and the JDemetra+ software, and two visits, one on macroeconomic indicators and the other on the Wage Structure Survey.



*Left to right: Ms Séverine ARNAULT and Mr Olivier SANZERI, experts in the Wages and Earned Income division, Department of Employment and Income, INSEE; Ms Cmilja IVKOVIĆ and Ms Bojana ŠOŠKIĆ, Unit for Earnings Statistics, SORS; Ms Vesna ARALICA, interpreter, SORS*



*Left to right: Ms Christelle HEINFLING, Mr Sébastien CHAMI and Mr Antonio SEDENO, experts in the Division for social and local statistics at the INSEE's Metz centre*

### Ukraine

After an interruption of a few months at the end of the European twinning for the benefit of SSSU, the Ukrainian NSI, the bilateral cooperation between INSEE and the Ukrainian Institute resumed.

9, 10, 11. See the article on the subject in this newsletter.

Four actions took place between mid-2016 and mid-2017, including three visits and one mission. The latter was about services producer price indices.



Back row, left to right: Ms Kateryna ISTRATENKO, head of the division for Industrial Producer Price Statistics, SSSU; Ms Alla LEVCHENKO, head of the division for International Comparisons, SSSU; Ms Iryna SHKURSKA, deputy director of the department for Price Statistics, SSSU; front row: Mr Mykhailo GORNOVSKYI, French-Russian interpreter; Mr Alain GALLAIS, INSEE expert in services producer price indices; Ms Olha KALABUKHA, director of the department for Price Statistics

The themes of the visits were: construction statistics; population and civil status statistics; wine, vines and cereals statistics.<sup>12</sup>



Left to right: Ms Iryna PETRENKO, Acting Director of the Department for Production Statistics, SSSU; Ms Galyna OVERCHENKO, Head of the Division for Construction Statistics, SSSU; Ms Larysa NAHNYBIDA, Senior Economist of the Division for Construction Statistics, SSSU; Mr Mykhailo GORNOVSKYI, French-Russian interpreter; Mr Guillaume HOURIEZ, assistant director for construction statistics, Observation and Statistics Service (SOeS); Mr Frédéric MINODIER, at the time head of the division of decentralised construction statistics, SOeS; Mr François LIMOUSIN, at the time methodologist in the same division

12. With the collaboration of the statistical department of the Ministry for Agriculture.

13. With the collaboration of the statistical department of the Ministry for Ecology, Sustainable Development and Energy.



Left to right: Ms Agnès LERENARD, head of the Demographic Registers and Files department, INSEE in Nantes; Mr Pierre BAYART, head of the Births, Deaths and Marriages and Permanent Demographic Sampling division in the same department; Ms Chantal FOUCHARD, national pilot for Births, Deaths and Marriages and Permanent Demographic Sampling in the same division; Ms Maria TIMONINA, deputy director of the department for Population and Regional Statistics, SSSU; Ms Liubov ZADOIENKO, head of the division for Demographic Statistics in the same department; Mr Oleksandr GLADUN, deputy director for Science of the Ptoukha Institute for Demographic and Social Studies (Ukraine); Mr Mykhailo GORNOVSKYI, French-Russian interpreter



Back row, left to right: Ms Monique MEIZELS, expert at France Agrimer; Ms Anne COYNE, deputy head of the Statistics and Forecasting Service of the Ministry for Agriculture (SSP); front row: Mr Mykhailo GORNOVSKYI, French-Russian interpreter; Ms Olga SIKACHYNA, deputy director of the department for Agriculture and Environment Statistics, SSSU; Ms Liliya OVCHARENKO, Head of the division for Economic Accounts and Statistics of Use of Agricultural Products in the same department; Ms Svitlana MASIUK, Head of the division for Agriculture and Fishery Production Statistics in the same department

### EU member states: Romania and Poland

INSEE provides technical support

to NSIs of European Union countries with which our Institute has a tradition of cooperation. This is the case with Romania and Poland, from whom INSEE received delegations on study visits. The Romanian delegations came to study the Victimisation Survey and to discover the Secure Data Access Centre (CASD); the Polish delegation came to study profiling of enterprise groups.

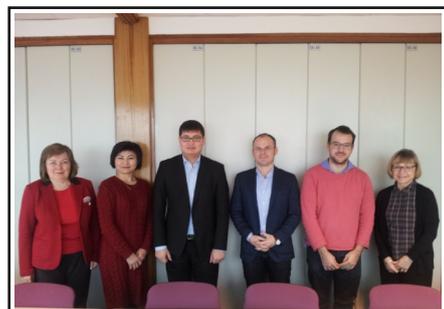
### Kazakhstan

The World Bank twinning for the benefit of the Committee on Statistics, the Kazakh NSI, was completed at the end of 2016. During H2 2016, INSEE carried out three actions in the form of two study visits and one mission. The latter was about services producer price indices.



Mr Alain GALLAIS, INSEE expert in services producer price indices, surrounded by Kazakh colleagues

The themes of the two visits were energy statistics<sup>13</sup> and the inclusion of International Labour Organisation indicators in statistics on working time.



Left to right: Ms Zifa YAKUPOVA, head of the Services and Energy Statistics division; Ms Ainur ADILOVA and Mr Zhanbol YELEUSSIZOV, experts in the same division; Mr Denis KASCHUBA, Kazstat project manager and representative of Destatis; Mr Thomas MERLY-ALPA, INSEE methodology expert; Ms Nina COLONNA-CESARI, French-Russian interpreter

14. With the collaboration of the statistical department of the Ministry for Labour.

## Turkey

Turkstat, the Turkish NSI, benefits from European funding to make study visits to other EU NSIs or to receive experts from those institutes on missions. Two actions took place between July 2016 and June 2017: a visit to INSEE about services producer price indices and one mission to Turkstat on the profiling of enterprise groups.



Left to right: Mr Tony VUILLEMIN, at the time expert in the Industry and Services Price Indices division; Mr Olivier DUNAND, expert in the same division; Ms Gökay Fatma BOSTANCI, assistant expert, Ankara Regional Office; Ms Eylül POLAT, expert at the Short-Term Business Statistics Department of Turkstat; Mr Dogan Efe ERTEM, French-Turkish interpreter

## Russia

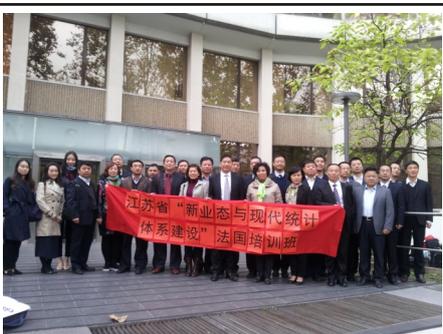
INSEE is part of the consortium of countries run by Destatis (the German NSI) taking part in the World Bank twinning for the benefit of Rosstat, the Russian NSI. In this context, our Institute hosted a study visit from a Russian delegation on the subject of national accounts (non-financial assets accounts).



Left to right: Ms Irina MASAKOVA, deputy head of Rosstat; Ms Galina ROMASHKINA, deputy director of the National Accounts department, Rosstat; Mr Mikhail GORDONOV and Ms Oksana FILATOVA, heads of service in the same department; Ms Olga MOJAEVA, French-Russian interpreter; Mr Sylvain HUMBERTCLAUDE, expert in INSEE's National Accounts department

## China

Representatives of the NSI from the Chinese province of Jiangsu came to INSEE as part of a study visit on European statistics, French law on statistics and ENSAE, the national graduate school for statistics and the economy.



The Chinese delegation in front of INSEE's offices. Message on the banner: "Development of a new, modern statistics system – Training for Jiangsu province in France"

## South Korea

INSEE received a delegation from Kostat, the South Korean NSI, on the theme of the renewed population census.



Left to right: Mr Jae Won LEE, head of the South Korean delegation and of the Population Census division; Ms Soo Hee SEO, assistant; Ms Ju Hee LEE, deputy head of the same division; Mr Sébastien HALLÉPÉE, deputy head of the Census Methods and Processing division, department of Demographics, INSEE; Mr Frédéric TALLET, head of the same division; Mr Raphaël LEE, research officer in INSEE's macroeconomic research division and French-Korean interpreter for the duration of the visit

## ERETES Missions

Seven missions took place relating to the ERETES system for producing national accounts, all except one on the African continent.<sup>15</sup>

Four of them were missions to set up the system in Algeria, Jordan, Guinea-Bissau and Ghana.

Two other missions involved running a workshop on ERETES for the benefit of national accountants from Afristat and the NSIs of member states and other African countries already using the system.

Finally, a mission took place at the headquarters of the African Union in Ethiopia, involving the promotion of ERETES to the statistical division of that organisation.

# International technical support provided by INSEE and its partner ministerial statistical departments – Summary of actions undertaken in 2016

## Number of actions undertaken in 2016

Type of funding	Number of actions
French	80
Multilateral	83
Total	163

## Number of days of expertise provided in 2016

Type of action	Number of days
Missions	482
Visits	170
Total	652

## Number of experts mobilised in 2016

Origin	Missions	Visits	Total
INSEE	35	105	140
Ministerial statistical departments	6	26	32
Retired employees	10	-	10
Total	51	131	182

## News from INSEE's Statistical Coordination and International Relations Division

In March 2017, Mr Jean-Pierre CLING became head of INSEE's Statistical Coordination and International Relations Division (DCSI).



*Mr Jean-Pierre CLING, head of the Statistical Coordination and International Relations division, INSEE*

He took over the job from Mr Raoul DEPOUTOT.

Since 2016, Jean-Pierre CLING had been resident advisor to the European twinning project between INSEE and the Tunisian NSI.

He had previously been an advisor to the deputy director general for Globalisation, Development and Partnerships at the French Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Since September 2016, Mr Georges BOURDALLÉ has been responsible for international cooperation between INSEE and the countries of the Maghreb and the Mediterranean basin within the International Technical Support section.

He took over this job from Ms Sophie BOURREL, who has joined the team of experts in the national accounts and the ERETES system

in the same section. She took over that job from Mr Jean LOUIS.



*Mr Georges BOURDALLÉ, responsible for INSEE's international cooperation with the Maghreb and the Mediterranean basin*

### Legal notice

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INSEE's International Technical Support Section is: Ms Dominique FRANCOZ, head of section, Mr Georges BOURDALLÉ, Maghreb and Mediterranean basin, Mr Serge DARRINÉ, Europe and Asia, Ms Constance TORELLI, sub-Saharan Africa and the Caribbean, Mr Jean-Samy AZIZ, expertise in national accounts and the ERETES tool, Ms Sophie BOURREL, expertise in national accounts and the ERETES tool*